

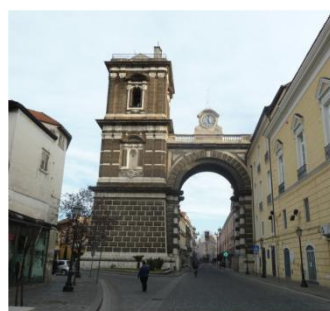


LICEO SCIENTIFICO
ENRICO FERMI
AVERSA

4th Edition

Breaking Views

*“The story of a
Norman county”*



The City of a Hundred Churches



INSIDE

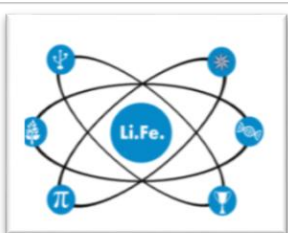
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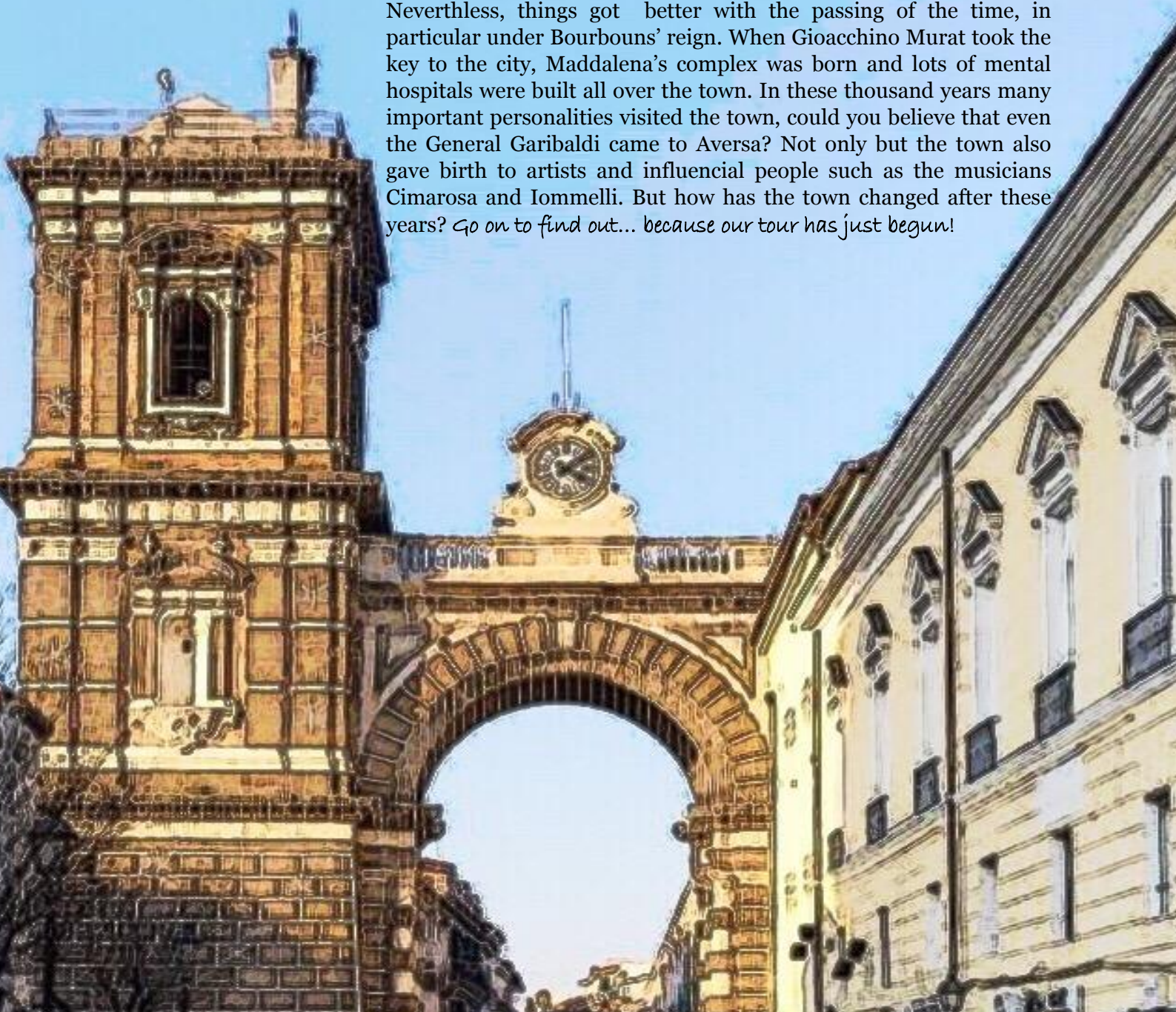


"The story of a Norman county"

By Nicla Persico, Francesca Rosano, Rachele Manna 3F

We're about to start our journey discovering the origins and the several faces of a town that has a lot to say. Well, here our tour is going to start.....

Once upon a time there was a Duke, he came from Normandy and his name was Rainulfo Drengot. He founded the county of Aversa in 1022; since then 12 dukes succeeded to the throne until the Angevins' arrival in 1285. Thanks to them, Aversa lived a period of prosperity but unfortunately it wasn't meant to be lasting, infact during the Aragonese and the Spanish rulership, Aversa's decline started. Nevertheless, things got better with the passing of the time, in particular under Bourbouns' reign. When Gioacchino Murat took the key to the city, Maddalena's complex was born and lots of mental hospitals were built all over the town. In these thousand years many important personalities visited the town, could you believe that even the General Garibaldi came to Aversa? Not only but the town also gave birth to artists and influencial people such as the musicians Cimarosa and Iommelli. But how has the town changed after these years? Go on to find out... because our tour has just begun!



SYMBOLS OF A CITY

By 4L

Aversa is a city and Municipality in the Province of Caserta and it is situated about 5 kilometres north of Naples. It is the focal centre of the **Agro-Aversano**, an agricultural district famous for its wine and the extraordinary buffalo mozzarella. One of the symbols of the city is the "Polacca" cake, filled with cream and covered with icing sugar. Moreover, Aversa is well-known for the countless shoes workshops, which make people come to buy items from all the Province.



Basiliscus is the symbol of Aversa ; it is in gold, placed on a countryside, with a blue background and the inscription: "*Here sub ingesta iacuit Basiliscus harena, invictum iber protulit ille caput*" Origins and Symbolology of the Coat of Arms. The basilisk rooster calls the Nordic origins of the founders of the city. The basilisk is a **legendary animal**, represented with the snake body, the head of a rooster, eagle's wings and eagle's legs. It is said that this monstrous figure was born, according to a legend of northern Europe, from a snake egg hatched by a rooster. The translation of the motto is: "*The Basilisk, which lay on the arena, freed up the undecided head*"

CITY HALL and MUNICIPIO SQUARE

by Angelica Paone, Maria Rosaria D'Aponte, Mariarosa Tonziello 3F

The City Hall of Aversa is situated in the main square of the city which takes its name from the building. However, in the center of the square there is also a monument made of bronze and stone, which was collocated there on 18th November 1936. This last one consists of a stone basement; at the top there are four bronze statues that represent soldiers in action with weapons, a woman symbolizing liberty and victory. Even if in 1936 the monument was dedicated to the fallen soldiers of the First World War, later it became a dedication to all war victims as the little tombstone placed under the bronze torch suggests.



A city open to the future : population and numbers

By Roberto Coccozza, Nicola Marrandino, Gennaro Pierro and Ilaria Riccardo 2G

Aversa is a city in the Province of Caserta in Campania, in the south of Italy, about 5 kilometres (3 miles) north of Naples; with a population of 53,324, of which 25,511 are males (48%) and 27,813 are females (52%), it is the second city of the province after Caserta. The city is no stranger to influxes of immigrants, experiencing additional immigrant growth during the late 1980s through the 1990s. According to Istat information, of the residents within the



city limits, 6% is from different countries, mainly from China, Poland, Africa and Morocco. *We carried on a survey in our school* and we found out that 25 students out of 2258 are foreigners (1,11%). Much of the immigration has been attributed to the rapid industrialization of the city. There is also a growing number of migrants from Naples due to the excessive increase in housing rents. The population is primarily Catholic, although there are also large communities of protestant evangelicals.

A curiosity :

The most common five family names in Aversa are:

Andreozzi, D'Aniello, Verde, Marino, Di Grazia



A walk through the beauties of Aversa

By 3L

Aversa is a city rich of art, history, culture and traditions. It was founded as a fiefdom in 1030 by the Count of Naples Sergio IV. The Norman **Rainulfo Drengot** changed it in the first Norman county and his power went on for about 126 years; the city is situated in an area known as **Campania Felix**. Aversa is very famous for its **one hundred churches**; among the most important we can mention the complex of Annunziata which includes the Arch and the Church.



SS. Annunziata's Church was built between 14th and 17th Centuries, firstly without lateral chapels under Fra' Giuseppe Nuvolo's direction. Opposite the church we can find a pronaos with four Greek columns decorated with flowers. The map is a Latin cross and the interior of the church is in marble. The chapels are adorned with paintings like the ones which represent "Madonna delle Grazie" and "San Giovanni Evangelista". Alongside the church there is **the Arch of Annunziata** which is one of the most beautiful and famous landmarks in Aversa. It was built in 1712 commissioned by Mormile's family. The function of the Arch was to connect Real Casa dell' Annunziata to the bell-ringer replacing the older structure dated back to 5th Century. The two pillars delimit the Arch and frame two low relieves describing, on the right the Resurrection and, on the left the World Creation. On the top of the Arch there is a huge clock with its double-face. The Arch is an important **meeting point** not only for teenagers but also for those who want to enjoy a nice walk in Aversa and admire its beauty starting from **Via Roma** that is the main street. We really invite everyone to visit our fascinating city and all its ancient but always charming landmarks and why not to take a walk visiting the Annunziata's complex.

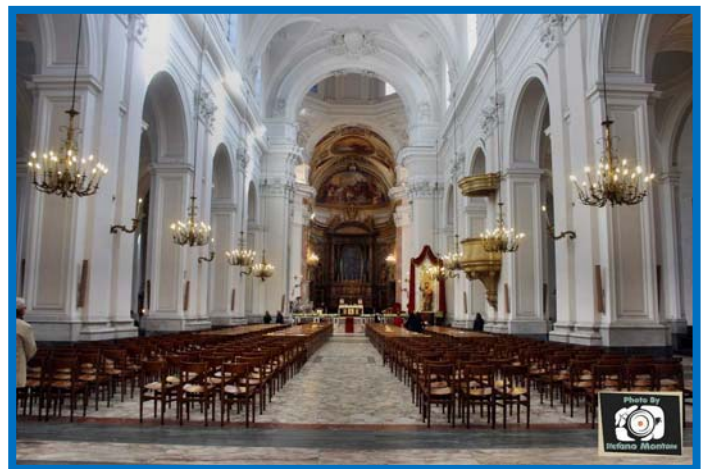
A treasure at your fingertips: St Paul's Cathedral

By M. D'Alessandro ,G. Pergameno ,C. Ferriero ,G. Perrone ,G. Lauriello , L. Menditto 2D

Our wonders through the eyes of an American retired Marine who volunteered as mother tongue at Liceo Scientifico "E. Fermi"

"Amazing, wonderful, this is incredible" - these are some words that Mr Parillo pronounced referring to our **Cathedral**. "Although, I have travelled all over the world in my life, I think this bell tower really makes the difference"

St Paul's bell tower is very peculiar, yet incredible picturesque with its baroque architecture. We can see on the top an octagonal structure on which there is a marmoreal bust, which we like to think is a warrior. However, the most incredible feature is the octagonal dome, unique to Italy. Like the dome also the ambulatory, the covered structure behind the altar, is one of a kind, with its seven spans and its cross vaults. Remarkably, it is the only ambulatory unspoiled in our country. "Wow! How much history! I had no idea that a small city like Aversa could have these wonders. In The USA we haven't got such ancient churches or monuments. We are much younger, you know"



However, our American friend is not the only one who doesn't know the gold mines of Aversa. **The City of 100 Churches**, as it is called, is a real treasure, a huge heritage that should be preserved and well-known not only among local people, but also abroad. We hope we can improve the awareness of the rich culture that exists in this incredible city, giving birth to a new phenomenon: **Tourism**. *Let's have more people visiting the amazing Norman city of Aversa!*

The Church of St. Francesco

By Luigi Lettera, Rosa de Chiara, Arianna Gallo, Antonella Schiavone, Sveva Cranegli 4 H



Aversa is a city with very ancient origins and it is worth visiting the countless monuments and artistic building spread throughout the territory. A special mention is due to one of the most beautiful churches.... you can't visit Aversa without spending a moment admiring this holy and artistic building: San Francesco. The church is located in San F. d'Assisi Street. It is part of the wide monastic complex of "**San Francesco delle Monache**". The present church, dating from the early thirteenth century



(1230-1235), was designed in **Baroque** style and was committed by Rebursa family and then restored in 1645. The inside of the building is one of the most famous and well known in Aversa: it develops through one central nave flanked by three chapels at each side decorated in polychrome marble. It is a common belief that the inside decorations are the most beautiful in Aversa: the architects used contrast, movement, exuberant details, grandeur and surprise to achieve a sense of awe. The pictorial patrimony of the holy building was formed by the greatest artists of the time: the church is a museum of **Baroque style paintings** that contributed to reach the feeling of wonder through rich deep color and intense light and dark shadows.

The oldest church in Aversa :

Santa Maria a Piazza

By A. Diana, S. Santagata, E. Verazzo, M. Colombiano, G. Affinito, A. Natale 4H

Santa Maria a Piazza's Church was built in 1339. The Church represents **Aversa's heart**, in fact it was the main center where the social, economic, political and religious life developed in the past. The Church is characterised by many styles: **Norman, Gothic, Romanesque, Byzantine, Arabic and**



Longobard prevalence. The Church has a tuff facade with three portals. On the right, incorporated into the structure, there is a belltower that has remained unfinished. Inside we can admire "Nicola Simonello's tombplate", an eighteen-century altar with the "*Madonna with Baby Jesus*" and some frescoes as "*Saint Lucia*", "*Madonna enthroned with Baby Jesus*", "*Crucifixion*" and "*Shepherd's adoration*". The Church is characterised by unusual symbols: a cross "camata", an overlap of two crosses, a star inscribed in a circle, a lozenge and a simple cross. By these symbols they wanted to represent what is said in the phrase: "*Jesus, Father's son, created the Earth and the sky*".

father's son, created the Earth and the sky".

Castles and Monuments : the Aragonese Castle

By L. Melito, G. Sapio, R. Esposito, D. Romano, R. Falanga, S. Della Volpe 4H

Aversa has always been a city with a rich cultural and artistic heritage but its artistic repertoire is shown not only in religious works. The most famous example of civil structure in Aversa is the **Aragonese Castle**, that was a famous princes' and princess' mansion such as **Giovanna d'Angiò** and Muzio Sforza, Francesco's father. The structure is dated to the period of the First Crusade and its construction is assigned to Roberto and Guglielmo, respectively Tancredi's son and nephew but, only after a new adjustment given by Alfonso d'Aragona, in 1492, the castle was renamed with its current name. In 1700 the castle fell into ruin because of human neglect until when, in 1755, Carlo III of Bourbon, entrusted its restoration, during which the structure underwent a radical change, thanks to its biggest architect: the illustrious Luigi Vanvitelli.



A frontal view of the Aragonese Castle. Today the structure is the venue of the **Tribunal of North Naples**. In many elements of the front there are lots of similarities with the Royal Palace of Caserta, the most famous among Vanvitelli's works.



A representation of the Arch at the beginning of the XVIII century.

On the other side of Aversa we can find another important building, the Annunziata's Arch. Built in 1712 in Aversa the Annunziata Arch was used to link the "**Real Casa Santa dell'Annunziata**" with the Torre Campanara built in the same year to replace the one that was built in 1400. The main entrance is decorated with a round arch built in 1518, most likely commissioned by Mormile family. There is also the presence of reliefs representing people and allegorical scenes linked to the founder of the Norman county. Outside there is a small garden where the church of S.S. Annunziata preceded by a lobby is situated .

The Ex Macello

By Giuseppe Grassi 4F

The "Ex Macello" or (slaughterhouse) was built in the middle of the 19th century on the ashes of an older Macello. In 1866 the municipality decided to build the new Macello factory, ruled by commoners and sanitarian advisers. The factory had to guarantee the best sanitarian efficiency in order to produce high quality meat and the structure needed to be far from the city center. In 1876 the works started and the new Macello was built with many departments. Each department included three padiglioni, each of them dedicated to porks, sheep and buffalos. Due to the city's growth, the Macello was abandoned and it has been transformed in a cultural centre dedicated to **Vincenzo Caianello**. Today the Macello hosts the **Civico Museo** and is used also for political meetings and civil events.

The Annunziata Arch decorated for Christmas.



La Maddalena : walls that still tell stories

The wonders of an amazing place through our interview to Mr Fortunato Allegro

By Maria Gaia Coppola, Francesca Sorriento, Francesco Solino, Vittorio Chirico 3F



In the past Aversa was the seat of seven psychiatric hospitals that hosted people suffering from mental illness. The most famous is **La Maddalena** that is still surviving today. It was founded in 1813 by Gioacchino Murat who decided to apply the French Revolution reforms. That's why the first psychiatric reform was introduced. There was a psychiatrist in Paris called Philippe Pinel who said "*Let's get fools free from chains*", because they were victims of the worst tortures ever. So Murat decided to establish the first reformist asylum in Europe. Maddalena Asylum was firstly a leper hospital, then became a convent guided by Franciscan friars. In the cloister built in 1400 there are some frescoes

representing S. Francesco da Paola's life. One of the most representative elements is the surrounding wall that constituted the material separation between the real world and mad people's world. In 1978 Basaglia Law was issued: it stated the closure of asylums which were abandoned. The mental patients that had been chased away didn't find their freedom because they were persecuted or closed in house families, who worked as asylums as well. Nowadays the building is unused but there's a project called "**La Maddalena che vorrei**" (the Maddalena I would like to have) meant to regenerate the huge building rich in treasures of artistic interest and the wonderful gardens surrounding it. Mr Fortunato Allegro, promoter of lots of important initiatives to preserve the historical and artistic beauties of Aversa, in our interview declared: "*It's a 17 hectares area that should become a public park with the historical archive in order to remember all those people suffering from mental illness*".

A STORY..... Maddalena Asylum took a very long time to close but the stories of its patients are still running through the walls, screaming and asking for compassion. One of them tells about **a woman who had been enclosed only because her sexuality**. She had some problems with her husband and confessed her embarrassment with the family doctor. He decided to help her, but her husband discovered the betrayal and ordered to have the wife enclosed. It was the doctor himself to diagnose the enclosure for erotomania. The woman died just after six months in there for a pulmonary complication.



Did you know that.....?

The complex was initially ruled by **Giovanni Linguiti**, a priest, who used **theatre therapy** with fools so that they could forget the causes of their madness by playing other characters.

OPG : Never trust a good smelling piece of soap or cake!

By Maria Gaia Coppola 3F



Together with La Maddalena there's another mental illness centre in Aversa: it's the psychiatric judicial hospital, better known as **OPG (Ospedale Psichiatrico Giudiziario)** built thanks to **Filippo Saporito**, which hosted mad criminals. One of them, known by almost everyone in Aversa, was **Leonarda Cianciulli** known as "**The Saponificatrice**" for her horrible crimes. She was born in Ariano Irpino but, after the earthquake which destroyed her home, she had to move to Correggio near Reggio Emilia. She had a strange personality, she claimed to be a wizard and to be able to read



people's life in cards. She had 14 pregnancies but just three went good ; she was predicted that all her children would have died if she hadn't made a human sacrifice. Scared by this prophecy, she pulled in three women, pretending to be their friend and promising them a better future somewhere far from Correggio. Afterwards she horribly killed them melting their bodies in acid and using their blood to make cupcakes and soap. Leonarda convinced the women to write letters to their relatives once arrived at

destination, so she used her oldest son to send them to other cities and deceive the victims' relatives. The last victim's relatives had some suspects and succeeded in debunking Leonarda who confessed and, still proud of her crimes, she sectioned a body in front of the police to show them how she used her victims. She was enclosed in Aversa's Judicial Hospital and later moved to Pozzuoli's hospital where she died for cerebral apoplexy.

Protest promoted by the campaign
"Stop OPG" dated 17 May 2011



"Who would have ever imagined that the first known serial killer lived in Aversa?"

Leonarda Cianciulli : La Saponificatrice

Aversa : the homeland of famous musicians

By Nunzia Barretta, Enza Ferriero, Francesca Iavarone,
Flavia Zingarello 3Cs



DOMENICO CIMAROSA

If we start our tour from Aversa Station the first sign of our historical and artistic past is immediately visible in the statue of one of the most representative figures of our town : the musician and composer Domenico Cimarosa

Representative of the Neapolitan School, he was born from a very poor family in Aversa on December 17, 1749. He showed a precocious musical talent and at the age of twelve he was admitted to Madonna di Loreto Conservatory in Naples. In a few years he became a skilled violinist, harpsichordist and organist, he delighted in singing and masterfully interpreted pieces of work for his

classmates. In the carnival of 1772, Cimarosa made his debut as an operatic with the comedy for music "**Le stravaganze del conte**" at the Teatro dei Fiorentini. His works soon became popular in Rome, where his comic intermezzos were mainly represented at the Teatro Valle. Between 1778 and 1781 eighteen of his works were staged, among them "**The Italian in London**" was successful and was the first work to be performed in Milan at the Scala Theater. He became organist of the Royal Neapolitan Chapel. In 1787, at the invitation of the Tsarina Caterina of Russia, Domenico Cimarosa went to Petersburg, assuming the role of court musician. At the end of 1791 he returned from Russia and had in Vienna, in the Burgtheater, "**The Secret Marriage**", with a libretto by Giovanni Bertati. Having compromised with the Neapolitan Republic in 1799, he had to serve four months in prison under the Bourbons and, when he was released, he left Naples and lived the last years in Venice where he died on 11 January 1801.

*****Aversa awards Cimarosa's divulgers*****



Aversa celebrates its composer with the International Prize "**PREMIO DOMENICO CIMAROSA**" (fifth edition) born in 2009 and organized by the Culture Department of Aversa in collaboration with the Music Conservatory S. Pietro Majella of Naples and the Academy Mediterraneo Arte & Musica. The creator and



artistic director of this manifestation is the guitarist **Piero Viti**, winner of several national and international Music Competitions, concert performer, musicologist and professor at Benevento Conservatory. This special praise is addressed to musicians, art directors, producers, editors, music historians and all those who distinguished particularly for their studies about Cimarosa and the divulgation of his work all over the world. The last great event was held at **Salone Romano** on 30th January 2018 with the musical narration of "**Il Matrimonio Segreto**".

LET'S LIGHT UP CIMAROSA THEATRE!

By **Giorgia Gaia Melucci, Roberta Cipriano, Antonella Tranchino 3F**

Aversa is a town rich of treasures and with an absolutely wide artistic and cultural heritage. *Why not talking about Cimarosa Theatre?* To begin with, its structure was opened in 1924: several years later Gaetano Parente's idea, the first opera went on stage! However, the construction works were not easy and the project got modified different times as well. As a matter of fact, despite the original intention of building a wooden theatre, in the end it was made of tuff and reinforced. Instead, the huge bas-relief in façade is stuccoed and represents the great personality of Domenico Cimarosa, musician of international fame who was born and lived in a small house right here, in Aversa. Nevertheless, the interior hosts wonderful masterpieces too: the lower circular dome frescoed by the Neapolitan



artist Arnaldo De Lisio; the elegant and chic *Roman Salon* with its eighteenth-century decorations and frescoes. In addition, through decades the uses of this architecture have changed too. An example? In the past it was only used as a theatre while nowadays it is a very popular cinema and it is regularly used as a seat for cultural, musical and political events.

NICCOLO' JOMMELLI

By **N.Barretta, E.Ferriero, F. Iavarone, F. Zingarello 3Cs**

Another important musician from our town is Niccolò Jommelli; he was born in Aversa on 10 September 1714 and admitted to the **Conservatory of Sant'Onofrio in Naples** where he received the first lessons from the great Francesco Durante. Just a few years later he entered the prestigious Conservatory of the Pietà dei Turchini. At the age of twenty-three, he wrote his first opera, *Amorous Error*, for the Nuovo theater in Naples. In 1738 he wrote for the Fiorentini theater the successful *Odoardo* and hence his fame began to spread even outside the kingdom of Naples. Called to Rome in 1740, he composed the *Ricimero* for the Argentina theater that gathered a happy success and the following year, for the same theater, the *Astianatte*. In 1741 he was called instead to Bologna to write *Ezio* and later to Venice to write *Merope*. The great success of this work aroused so much admiration that the government of the Serenissima appointed him **Director of the Conservatory of the poor girls, called Ospedaletto**. Here he wrote the first pieces of sacred music and, among others, a four-voices Mass, a *Laudati Pueri* with eight voices and two choirs. After representing *Dido* in Rome in 1746, he wrote the *Eumene* for the San Carlo theater in Naples. Jommelli remained in Rome for five years where he presented his resignation in May 1754 to go to Stuttgart to take over the role of maestro di cappella. During a long stay in Stuttgart, his style was influenced by German music. Back to Italy, he had to start all over again because of his long absence. He had more experience and talent, but less youth and plenty of ideas; in recent years he had retired with his family to Aversa and died in 1774





BIANCA D'APONTE ASSOCIATION

A way to share musical culture from
the local area and discover new
talents



By Francesca Fusco, Rosa Serra 2C

Since 2004 the city of Aversa has hosted the **Festival Bianca D'Aponte**, an Italian competition involving songwriters and music lovers. This year there will be the 14th edition of the festival, with a scholarship of a thousand euros as a prize for the winner. It was founded by **Gaetano D'Aponte** and the society "**Sono un'isola**", to pay homage to Bianca D'Aponte, Gaetano's daughter, a twenty-two-year-old songwriter that left us due to a lethal form of aneurysm. This catastrophic event didn't prevent the creators of the competition from carrying on the project ; on the contrary, it became even stronger than before. The idea of the festival was born from the necessity to have a space to share musical talent with others and to have a place to host concerts and events linked to all the local artists' community . *The initial idea for "Bianca D'Aponte" auditorium became the reality!* This space became also the place where the guitar and transverse flute masters, together with the three selection nights for the International **Flute Contest dedicated to Domenico Cimarosa**, are held. It is the venue of a music academy "**Armonesia**", directed by Luigi Esposito and Pietro Viti. The centre is situated at 2 Nobel Street and It is the right spot to discover all the young talents in the local community, that often get forgotten because of the lack of cultural places for performing ; for this, it is one of the only associations of this kind in the city. It is also able to give representation for the even smallest category in the Italian songwriters scene: a contest just for women. The artistic director of the contest was **Fausto Mesolella**, a talented musician and an old friend of Bianca's, who also contributed largely to the project, being one of the creators of the festival. After his death, the prize is dedicated to his memory. In addition to the final prizes for the winners, the two scholarships from the association and from the critics, there are also winning categories for the best music, the best lyrics and the best interpretation. Each of these has a value of five hundreds euros. Everyone can try to take part in the competition, an initiative intended essentially to encourage the emerging talents..... The main goal of Gaetano D'Aponte and "Sono un Isola":

Helping new and talented songwriters to emerge in the musical world.



YOUNG ARTISTS IN AVERSA

The magic of the stage through our interview

to Mr Rocco Di Santi

By R. Cocozza, N. Marrandino, G. Pierro, I. Riccardo 2G



Aversa is an old town full of young talents, boys and girls who love the art of theatre and enjoy performing on the stage; to learn more we met and interviewed *Rocco Di Santi*, Artistic Director of **L.A.R.T.E.S** in Aversa that was first created as "**Laboratorio Arte Teatro e Spettacolo**". Later it was renamed as "**Piccolo Teatro Caligola**" because when the new laboratory was announced, the show that was being performed was "**Caligola**" by *Camus*. As Di Santi says: "*L.A.R.T.E.S* has seen plenty of generations for 35 years, one of which being the 80's ; people were really committed into the project. The following generations were quite involved as well but people didn't want to take part in the theatrical activities because the institutions gradually stopped giving help and funds, thus reducing the amount of companies and consequently of work" Despite this, Il Piccolo Teatro Caligola stages every year from 15 to 20 performances. These shows are arranged and written by the young artists and supervised by Di Santi. Sometimes, theatre is

seen as a way to fight stress, a sort of therapy for shy boys and girls but it is also a way to learn how to communicate emotions . It becomes a means of catharsis, a process of relief and purification given

by the strong emotions deriving from the theatrical experience.

The performances are usually adaptations from classical works and, in

the context of our town, this is a reason to be proud of the young people that dedicate their energy and time to this noble art.



AVERSA : THE RIGHT PLACE TO STUDY?

HIGH SCHOOLS, HIGH QUALITY...

By E. Errico, E. Lecce, A. Cesaro, N. Perrotta, A. Coppola, B. Falcone, L. Puca, A. Nerone, T. Lombardi 2D

It was the first mayor of Aversa **Gaetano Parente** who strongly wanted Aversa as the seat of a secondary school education, so in 1893 **Liceo Classico "Domenico Cirillo"** was founded. It has lately been enriching its offer by giving the students the opportunity to study music as a curricular subject. Liceo Scientifico "Enrico Fermi" was born in 1967 as a section of Liceo Classico but in 1972-1973 it



became autonomous. Later on Liceo "E. Fermi" split into two different schools **Liceo Scientifico "G. Siani"** and Liceo "E. Fermi". Liceo "Siani" is the newest and it is located in Viale Europa in Aversa. **Liceo Scientifico "Enrico Fermi"** is located near the railway station in via E. Fermi and it covers an area of 45,000 square metres. It is directed by **Ms Adriana Mincione**, the Headmistress. It is a huge school with about 2000 students. Throughout the years, it has implemented the regular curricular activities with culturally enriched projects to help the students' personal growth and



nowadays it includes new branches such as **Cambridge International High School, Technological Sciences, 2.0 Classes and Biomedic Classes**. There are also other secondary schools in Aversa: Artistic, Linguistic and Human Science High Schools. Additionally our territory offers the chance to choose a vocational and professional high school, such as "Alberghiero R. Drengot", "E. Mattei", "A. Volta", "A. Gallo", "O. Conti", "C. Andreozzi".



Aversa offers also the opportunity to attend university. **The Faculty of Architecture** was founded at the beginning of 1990s. It is located in San Lorenzo's Abbey and



carries out, promotes and supports important research. Students can take up a course in Architecture (five years) or a Design course (three years). Young people from Aversa and surroundings have a great opportunity to grow and become famous as architects and artists. Another University we can find in Aversa is the **Faculty of Engineering**. This is famous for its organization and its effectiveness. It offers young people great opportunities. It is easy to reach as it is located in the historical centre of Aversa. *We are very proud of this university!*

WOULD YOU MIND READING A BOOK?

By Giorgia Gaia Melucci 3F



You may not know, but Aversa isn't only a city with a great historical and gastronomic heritage, it is the city of culture and books as well!

Have you ever visited the Mondadori Store or the famous Quarto Stato?

Mondadori Bookshop, situated in Via Diaz in front of the popular “Bollicine” bar, has been selling stories, adventures and amazing novels since 2008. In particular, it is a welcoming and interesting place, often attended by youngsters, where you can easily make your “books addiction” stronger and fall in love with literary masterpieces! Nevertheless, you can sit, have a quick read and relax too. We met **Paola Siciliano**, the owner of the Mondadori Store, who declares: “My shop was born from a real necessity: to smell the printed pages and immerse myself in the amazing and outstanding lives of novel characters. What’s more is that here 70% of the customers are children and teenagers. That means, and I am more than happy about this because it means that people are getting closer to reading again and this revolution is starting right from the young people.”



Another place where you can meet people who read, sell and love books is **Quarto Stato**, located in Via Magenta ; it was born in 1978 as an independent cultural seat and as a documentation centre and later as a bookshop. It has been a reference point for book lovers for 37 years managed by a couple of ‘book addicts’ **Ernesto Rascato and his wife Antonella**. “ Our idea was not the one to sell school books but to be open to all the news about the reading world” declares Ernesto “ and to realize what we really love”. The couple are also involved in a research intended to find rare

books supporting University students and in volunteering. Inside the bookshop there is also a room “ **Saletta Cimarosa**” where there is a permanent exhibition about the Aversa composer and where public readings and cultural events are usually held.

IL DONO : 'DON'T THROW AWAY BOOKS, DONATE THEM'

by Chiara Sarmiento , Marinella Mangiacapra 3B

"It is like a circle : it starts with you donating something and ends with someone donating you something else"

In order to have more information about the library Il Dono, on 23rd January we met Mr. Fortunato Allegro, who takes care of it. There we were welcomed with open arms and we interviewed him about the past and the present of such a creative initiative.

This is our interview.....

Journalist: When did your commitment start?

Mr. Allegro: It started a few years ago, precisely in 2008, when Aversa was in the middle of a rubbish crisis and the streets of the city were invaded by rubbish of all kind.

Journalist: Who was involved in the campaign?

Mr. Allegro : At the time I was a philosophy teacher at the Liceo "Enrico Fermi", **a group of students and I organised a demonstration** and we protested against the Municipality, asking for the start of recycling in the city. The demonstration saw the participation of a thousand people.

Journalist: What did you get from this?

Mr. Allegro : After that, we had a meeting with the Mayor, who gave us a small space, near *Piazza Municipio*, where now you can see the library. Here **we started recycling paper**, cardboard, plastic and glass. Immediately, we noticed that a lot of people threw away books, so we thought we could make the difference. For this reason, we started to pile the thrown away books on a wall, that now surrounds a little garden – that you can see outside.

Journalist: How did you create this library?

Mr. Allegro: In the small space we were given, we discovered a little room – the same room we are in now - that once was a school gym, thus **we began to collect books there, in fruit boxes**. Today, there are around 50 thousands books in here, collocated in shelves made of refined wood, which were donated to us by a bookshop, that was closing.

Journalist: Can you tell us how it developed?

Mr. Allegro: At the beginning, it was just me and thirty students, but without their help I couldn't have done what we did together. The students spent their Sundays here, helping me recycling and collecting books. We have come a long way since the start. In fact, for six years now, **the library is part of Libera, an anti-camorra organisation, and a year ago, it became part of FAI too**. Anyway, **our main purpose is to donate books**, to churches and schools and we will donate others to Aversa Hospital "Moscati" too. Everything started as an ecologic initiative and then evolved as a cultural-social one.

Journalist: To sum up, how important is this initiative ? And is there anything

that hasn't changed at all through the years?

Mr. Allegro: Well, when we started, people didn't use to read a lot because books are expensive. So, this initiative gave people (even the ones with economic problems) the opportunity to read and get closer and closer to books. In fact, a book is not just a piece of paper – a novel can make you dream, a novel is emotions and fantasy -, it is also a witness of the past that isn't anymore. Now we prefer to live without memories. But the past is important, we can learn from our mistakes and get better. About the second question... It's been ten years since the start of everything – there will be an event on 28th January to celebrate the anniversary – and a lot has changed, as you have probably understood during this interview but a thing hasn't at all. *Il Dono is like a circle.' It starts with you donating something and it ends with someone donating you something else'.*



CARITAS : a Shelter House for people in need

By 3F

Among the different associations present in Aversa **CARITAS** distinguishes in particular for the great service paid to people in need living in the area. It is a free structure managed by **Don Carmine Schiavone** , offered by the Bishop Angelo Spinillo and supported by the charity of many people who volunteer their time to help men, women and families in financial difficulty or fallen in disgrace. These volunteers give assistance to everybody enters



the centre demanding for attention and help. The people hosted in the House come from many different countries but 70% of them are Italian. One hundred people live and sleep in the structure at present but the objective is not to host people permanently, moreover they work to guarantee them the possibility to find one day a solution and an alternative to their present condition. The shelter house includes bedrooms and a canteen where every day food is served to all those who have not

enough money to have regular meals or to those who have not a house with a table for lunch. The objective of the house is not only to provide people with basic needs but also to offer them a better quality of life ; for this reason inside the structure there is also a playroom for children, a barber corner where men receive shaving service and a chapel where everybody can go, pray and follow the religious celebrations. In addition, many citizens in need can join a counseling centre where they can have a psychological support and be advised on different fields.



Volunteering your time is a sign of great respect for people in need but also for yourself...

It helps your self-esteem and makes you feel great because you give without expecting anything back...

Environment and Art



MAKE AVERSA GREAT AGAIN !

"FAI" brings old Aversa back to life

By Eleonora Buffardi, Giulia Perla and Claudia Pondurno 3 F

FAI (Italian Environmental Fund) is an Italian community made of common people and volunteers that has sites all over the country. It deals with the renovation of abandoned and ruined monuments and combines culture and environment in order to **renew the local artistic heritage** and attract tourists. One of its most growing and active sites is the one in Aversa. In the last years, several projects have been proposed in order to value the historical heritage of the city. The latest one started on the 15th of October. During the occurrence several ancient cultural sites were opened to the audience. The most significant ones were the ***S. Maria degli Angeli Church, S. Maria Maddalena Church, the ex forensic Hospital, Filippo Saporito's house and the Aragonese Castle***. Due to the success of this event it was decided to promote another initiative that took place on the 24th and 25th of March, when several noble palaces were opened. And you, what do you think of this initiative? Is there anything in your town that you would like to bring back to life?



Members of the FAI with the President **Maria Giovanna Pezone** and the leader of Caserta Delegation **Donatella Cagnazzo**

*“For the environment, art and nature.
Forever, for everyone.”*

Spring Fai Days : Aversa Nobilissima - I Palazzi

By Nicla Persico 3F

OPEN THE DOORS TO BEAUTY !!!

Every year the Fai group of Aversa organizes a two-day program consisting in exploring and enhancing some of the most outstanding sites in Aversa. On the 24th and 25th March the tour Aversa Nobilissima : il Palazzi included **four itineraries** :

1 Visit the noble Historic Buildings of the Norman city : Starting from the railway station the itinerary proceeded along the road that, at the beginning of the 20th century, connected the station to the City Hall as well as nowadays. This is the street where the buildings are now situated. The first one is **Villa Stabile-Golia**, interesting historical mansion in Liberty style, then **Argo**, **Farinaro**, **Mormile** Buildings and finally the holy Liberty **Chapel dedicated to St Antonio**, possession of De Rosa family.



2 The Cardinal's Palaces : this tour includes St Paul's Cathedral, the Episcopal Seminary with the Diocesan Museum

3 The Music Palaces : this tour starts from the newly restored house of the Aversan composer **Domenico Cimarosa** . Here an adaptation of the Opera " Il Matrimonio segreto" was performed. In addition, the itinerary included the visit to **Cimarosa Theatre**, the **Roman Salon** and **Via Seggio**, one of the leading roads in Aversa where other historical palaces were visited such as **Palazzo Golia** and **Palazzo Sagliano- De Angelis**

4 The Hospitality Palaces : Aversa is historically known as the city of hospitality. Queen Giovanna D'Angiò founded the **Real Casa dell'Annunziata** a complex that became the seat of the Engineering University in the 90s. The itinerary included the visit to the magnificent Church of Annunziata, a masterpiece of great artistic value.



"The main drive of this initiative is to give value to the artistic heritage of our city thanks to the volunteers and all those people who love Aversa..."

AVERSA: a sustainable city



The green perspective through the words of the Environment Assessor De Angelis and the Mayor De Cristofaro

By Andrea Urbino, Alessia Arpaia, Antonio Iorio 3F

On the 16th of January a group of students from Liceo Scientifico Enrico Fermi had a meeting with the Environment Assessor Maria Carmen De Angelis, that was very helpful and talked about her idea of creating a sustainable city : *" Our main objective is to create a sustainable city" she said" where the citizens can become aware of the endless possibilities of their city and are involved in the defense and renewal of its cultural heritage"*. In other words the key idea



is to promote a culture of sustainable welfare also through sports events that get people in touch with the environment. *"The aim of these events" the Assessor continues" is to awaken the **enviromental awareness of the public opinion** starting from common places like the park "*. The organisation that supports and promotes this idea is the FAI, that combines culture and enviroment in order to improve the touristic department. As the Assessor confirmed , Aversa has a great cultural heritage that, if properly used, could be a fundamental



resource from an economic point of view. We were lucky enough to meet the Mayor Enrico De Cristofaro as well. He gave us his opinion about some matters regarding his support to all the initiatives concerning the safeguard of the environment in our town and *the conversation with him was really constructive and involving!*





AVERSA IN DEFENSE OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

By Raffaele Grassia , Antonio Ventre , Giuseppe Del Piano 3F



In Aversa, there is a large number of sports activities that involve all kinds of people, from teenagers to old people. These events aim at raising people's awareness of environmental issues such as air pollution and so on. To discuss about the matter further, we have recently interviewed the Assessor for the Environment of our town Maria Carmen de Angelis, who is

also responsible for the organization of sporting events in connection with the environment.

*"In 2018, there will be four "Sports Days "declares the Assessor" The prominent one is the cross country race which will be held in Pozzi Park. The aim of this manifestation is to get people in touch with nature and to support the defense of the green areas of Aversa. In addition we are working for the promotion of bike-sharing in order to favour a **sustainable mobility**"*

Furthermore, according to the Mayor Enrico de Cristofaro, open air activities help people appreciate their environment and consequently to defend it. All these manifestations, as said before, are fundamental because they keep people in contact with their natural surroundings and are basically meant to raise people's respect for the environment promoting a general growth of our city.



"Practicing a sport should not be based on the idea of success, but on the idea of giving the best of oneself."

(Gabriella Dorio)

Focus on Aversa!

By *Mariaclaudia Falco, Ines Caputo, Naomi Picone, Giovanna Galileo 3 O*

How to make Aversa an eco-friendly city.

Over the last few decades the problem of pollution in city has increased sharply. What will life be like in 20 years time? What would Aversa be like if anyone acted on this problem? We are Mariaclaudia Falco, Naomi Picone, Ines Caputo and Giovanna Galileo, part of the team: "***Fermi Non Si Pedala***", which has been created by the students of the 3O and we want to show off our project with Asoc.

ASOC: THE BIKE SHARING

Have you ever heard about it ?

OpenCoesione School is an educational challenge in fellowship with the Ministry of Education and EU commission in Italy; its objective is to highlight how the institutional funds are invested on projects in our country. Aversa joined a bicycle-sharing system which is a service available for everyone; The Bike-sharing allows people to rent a bike from a point and return it at another one by paying a little fixed charge; encouraging, in this way, people to reduce pollution.

Let's focus on Aversa

Just imagine a city crossed by bright green bicycles. Citizens would be able to cycle around Aversa and admire its one hundred churches; moreover it would enable people to walk around without being annoyed by traffic. This may definitely be the right occasion to appreciate our territory. Unfortunately, not everything has gone as planned; as a consequence we have to discover why the bicycles have not been located yet although all the funds had been granted. We sincerely hope to find out what has gone wrong, wishing to make Aversa a better place to live in.



Roma Street



Mazzini
Square



Trieste and
Trento Square

SALVINO ARTURO POZZI PARK

By Raffaele Verolla, Raffaele Ratto, Annachiara Palumbo, Virginia Ianniello, Teresa Palmiero, Arturo Di Caterino
4F

Salvino Arturo Pozzi Park is the **largest green area in the city** occupying about 22,000 m². Located in the central part of Aversa, the Park was previously used for the **assistance of the post-war refugees** who occupied the barracks located there (still today by many citizens the park is called "Ex Refugees' park"). Over the years, the guests of the camp have managed to find a more suitable home until 1990, following **Pope John Paul II's** journey to Aversa and to allow them to participate in mass to the greatest possible number of faithful, the Municipality decided the demolition of the barracks and most of the existing building structures in the area and provided for the enrichment of the green area with other flower beds.



Nowadays this park is characterized by **paths for jogging** and walking, it has an **wide parking**, **play areas** dedicated to children, **bowl fields**, **basketball court**, **equipment in wood for gymnastics** or stretching. Together with Via Roma, the Pozzi Park is the **most crowded place in town**, especially during the weekend, in fact the place is usually the destination for children, teenagers, adults and the elderly.

This large area is also often adorned during holiday periods; in fact, during the Christmas holidays of 2017, numerous themed lights were installed and a "Christmas village" was set up with a Nordic style market with wooden houses and exhibitors with food and wine local products.



Sport

Great sports activities for a small city

By Luigi Pellecchia, Michele Mangiacapre, Antonio Verde 3F

Sport tradition is really ancient in the Norman town. There is a one hundred –year-old horse racing tradition whose seat is **Ippodromo Cirigliano** and lots of gyms and sports centres everywhere in town. Despite it is a small town, Aversa offers its



inhabitants the opportunity to practice several sports activities. A recent survey has shown that the majority of people prefer going to the gym instead of practicing a specific sport. Young people claim that inside a gym you can have the possibility to big up your body doing different activities such as weightlifting, martial art and



boxe. Besides, in Aversa there is a historical sports association **Sporting Center Zodiaco** that gathers a number of different sporting disciplines such as swimming, football, tennis and rollerskating. In addition, if you like hydrobiking and watergym there are facilities suitable for practicing it in the municipal swimming pool **H2O**. As if it were not enough, if you want to practice an unusual sport, you can try to play paintball at **A.S.D. Sportland**. So, as you can see, in Aversa *there are many different ways to keep fit!!*. Now you have just to choose...



SPORT

YOUR

TIME !!

The incredible story of Sigma Aversa

Our interview to the President of volleyball Sergio Di Meo

by R. Ronga, G. Tillo, M. Bruno, E. Barbato, F. Casella, A. Palumbo 4F



'A wish is a dream your heart makes'. This is what happened to Sergio Di Meo and his team, **Sigma Aversa**, the **volleyball club** which has been playing in A2 for two years.

Di Meo's family took charge of it in 1996. Since then the Sport Association has been incredibly managed, until 2006, when Sergio Di Meo, after his third child, decided to retire. But, due to his great passion, he returned five years ago captaining the team and, after three years, it was back in "Serie A". Now a days "Sigma Aversa" is one of the three southern Italians clubs playing in this category; yet, the real

dream is to reach the "Super League", which is *'a promise made to my father before his death'* as the President declares. Sergio Di Meo is also organizing the first championship among the schools of Aversa and the final match will be held in the "Palajacazzi" before an A2 match. But not all that glitters is gold, indeed, financial problems are characterizing the volleyball world. First of all the team has been training for three weeks in a sport center in Sant Antimo, as the city of Aversa has given funds for turning on the heating only during official matches. Furthermore, there is no water cooler in the "Palajacazzi", forcing anyone who wants a drink to go to the nearest bar. During its history, "Sigma Aversa" has had one great regret: having lost the opportunity to reach the "B1 League" because of two unfortunate injuries before the decisive match. But on the other hand, the greatest satisfaction has been to bring a great deal of supporters back to the arena. In **our meeting in 4F at Liceo Scientifico** the President talked also about the importance of dreams and passion for young people and he left us a message that we won't forget:



The President of Sigma Volley meets 4F at Liceo Fermi

**<<Everything you do, do it with passion
and now or then you'll achieve the top>>.**

FOOTBALL IN AVERSA

By 4F

S. F. Aversa Normanna or simply Aversa is the main Association Football Club of our city and currently playing in Serie D. The club was founded in 1925 and the team's colour is all-dark red while the symbol is a Norman Viking. The team usually plays at Bisceglia Stadium and the President is **Giovanni Spezzaferri**. In the 2007–08 Serie D season, the team won direct promotion to Lega Pro Seconda Divisione after finishing first in Girone H. They also won the Scudetto Dilettanti (the over-all Serie D championship) by winning the end-of-year tournament played amongst the nine division winners. The team anthem is **FORZA NORMANNA!** and it is sung by the fans that gather at the stadium on Sundays.



Traditions

WHICH CRAFT ACTIVITIES CAN YOU FIND IN AVERSA?

By Miriana Sabatino 2N

Aversa is an important production pole of footwear. Craftmanship is considered a traditional work generated as a necessary part of daily life



The most important craft activity is absolutely the shoes factory . In the central zone of Aversa there are many streets known as '**bassetti**' where artisans realize leather shoes. The most popular store is "**Stabile Calzature**" that has produced shoes since 1953.



Aversa is also known for its artisanal ceramic. Many artists make vases and cups. The most popular shop situated in Aversa is "**Ceramicando**".



A big resource in Aversa is also wood. In the past there were many shops of wood where artists like Don Gaetano De Rosa, Enzo D'Amelio and Paolo Rotunno used to make pieces of furniture and in particular violins. Now there are fewer shops of wood than in the past. But we can remember "**La Bottega di Bianca**" and "**I Mobili della Nonna**"



FOOD AND WINE

Aversa is well-known for its gastronomic culture: the "Scarpariello", the "Polpette di San Paolo" (Saint Paul's meatballs), the "Pietra di San Girolamo" (Saint Girolamo's stone), the "Tortano" and the "Casatiello" have a special place but two of them distinguish for their popularity

The first is 'Polacca' (the Polish cake). Despite its complex story, **Nicola Mungiguerra** is considered the creator of this delicious cake. In fact, as his son claims, there is "a legendary story, between truth and myth worth being told. The cake was made by a Polish nun for a queen who was visiting Aversa, because at that time there were no bakeries, so the cakes were made in the cloisters. This nun gave the recipe to my grandfather, who rielaborated it". However, the fortune of this cake is due to a journalist from Rome, who tasted it in the 70s. He liked it so much, that from that moment on it has become a masterpiece of the Italian gastronomy" declares Mr Mungiguerra. This delicacy can be tasted in its "breakfast version", which is still different in each bakery. Mungiguerra's one is a hybrid of a croissant and a brioche.



Enjoy our local drinks

By M. Aburime, L. Caserta, G. Di Lorenzo, R. Pagano, M. Reccia, E.S. Spanò 31

Another typical Aversa product is "Vino Asprinio" whose production is widespread in Caserta province. In the past, it would have been Roberto d'Angiò (1277- 1343) to ask the real estate winemaker Louis Pierrefeu to choose a place in the Neapolitan countryside to plant a vineyard to produce a sparkling wine for the Angevin court, without having to bring the Champagne from France. Pierrefeu chose the volcanic soil of the Aversano area and a vine, perhaps a distant relative of the Pinot, which he considered particularly suitable for sparkling wine. The intuition turned out to be correct and the cultivation, according to the Etruscan method of "married vines", has made of the Asprinio an excellence of the territory of Campania, capable of delighting the most refined and demanding palates, from the times of the Royal Court of Naples up to present days.

A'BITE' OF AVERSA

By D. Buffardi, A. Varricchio, F. Muscariello, R. Russo, G. Brod, R. Sglavo 4F



The second one has conquered the world with its magnificent taste: the 'Mozzarella di Bufala' (buffalo mozzarella); Aversa is considered the homeland of this dairy product, also remembered in the famous film "Misericordia e nobiltà", with the Neapolitan artist Totò. There are several places where you can taste a good mozzarella such as Costanzo, Chirico, Caputo, Petrella.

Remember: IT IS EXTREMELY FORBIDDEN TO PUT IT IN THE FRIDGE! YOU MUST PRESERVE IT IN WARM WATER! So, now that you know our specialities, what are you waiting for? Go and try them! Now!



RESTAURANTS and FREE TIME in AVERSA

By Diego della Corte, Giovanna Capano and Francesca Ferrara Pia 3M



If you're visiting the fascinating city of Aversa, whether it's for only a week-end or more, you can't absolutely miss its very unique entertainment. Aversa in fact, even though is known as **the City of One Hundred Churches**, is also one of the most popular and lively cities in Caserta's province, due to its modern and charming locals. Are you looking for a place where you can try the **typical dishes** of the zone? In Aversa you will surely find the best restaurants which are extremely

delicious but at the same time not very expensive. Moreover, if you have always wanted to taste the famous Neapolitan pizza, in Aversa there is a large number of pizza restaurants which won several prizes, such as "**Morsi & Rimorsi**" that won the prize of the best pizza restaurant in 2018, "**Dodici**", "**La Grotta del Buono**"



and "**La Contrada**" that is located in an ancient building dated 1400 and has also a garden with outdoor seating and an excellent wine cellar. "**Constantino**" Restaurant Pizzeria is typical for its rustic style and its home cooking and classic dishes. If you want to enjoy a Saturday night that is different from the usual, Aversa is the best place to do it. Its nightlife is so cheerful and friendly that a tourist will soon feel an integral part of the crowd. The main street of the City, **Via Roma**, is the heart of all the city social activities, where you can find everything you need to spend a relaxing night. We also suggest you **Via Seggio** to visit all the animated pubs and wineries of the city. Although, if you prefer something quieter and more familiar, then you'd better visit the local "**Nat Bakery**" and try its



exquisite desserts. Summing up.... Aversa is the perfect city not only for young tourists who want to enjoy their stay in the open air, but also for adults who prefer to explore and discover the several beauties of the town.

Have fun with festivals!

By L. Barracca, C. Costanzo, A. Del Piano, A. Lorrveni, F. Pia Mottola, M. Palumbo, C. Ronza, I. Sofia 2D

You never get bored in Aversa, so come with us and discover this amazing city. There is a festival for everyone! Here you can find some examples we are sure you will like:

7th-15th October

If you are chestnuts lover, October is your month, with the **"Sagra della castagna"** Festival. We recommend to go to "Convento di Sant'Antonio" (in Via Seggio) where you can taste them with excellent wine.

29th December

If you want to have a step in the past, you absolutely have to see the **"Carillon vivente"** that dives you in a Fellini movie. It shows a dancer on a piano that moves along Via Roma: it creates a magical atmosphere all around you.

4th December-7th January

We celebrate Christmas with a festival in Parco Pozzi, where you can see Christmas decorations on the stalls. If you take your kids, they will be attracted from **"Villaggio di Babbo Natale"**, in which there are Christmas themed-cottages.

25th January



Another popular holiday is **Saint Paul's Patron festival**. He preached the Word of God and during his walk he stopped in Aversa. We celebrate this festivity on 25th of January because it is the day of his conversion.

Easter

On Easter Monday the folkloristic **Ceremony of Madonna dell'Arco** is held in Aversa; the so called **'battenti'** or **'fujenti'** pay homage to the Virgin Mary wearing white clothes and carrying pictures, banners and chariots in a street procession. In the past they used to walk and run barefoot.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Strange events at San Domenico's Church: an interview

By F. d'Amelio, F.P. Diana, M. G. Irace, M. S. Schiavo, A. Coviello, S. Kassim 31

Aversa has a long history and a lot of legends are told by old people about the churches and the castles which are the main landmarks of our town. We have investigated on the scary facts about San Domenico monumental complex, it hosts a dark mystery. Steps, shouts and dark shapes haunt this holy place. *We interviewed a witness a few days ago.....*

Can you tell us about some strange events which happened to you when you were a child?

Sure. I was a little girl at primary school and I went with my class for a visit to San Domenico's Church. My classmates and I were listening to our history teacher, so we were all quiet when, suddenly, I looked at the wall and I saw an arm getting through it. I was frozen with fear and I couldn't even scream. I was terrified. Then I ran away as fast as I could.

What did you tell your parents and your teacher?

The truth. It wasn't the first time something like that happened there. We were all scared of that place.

Did anything else happen?

During the visit, we also heard some steps around us, but the guard, who was a bit deaf, told us that no one had ever lived in that place.

Has anyone found information about what was happening there?

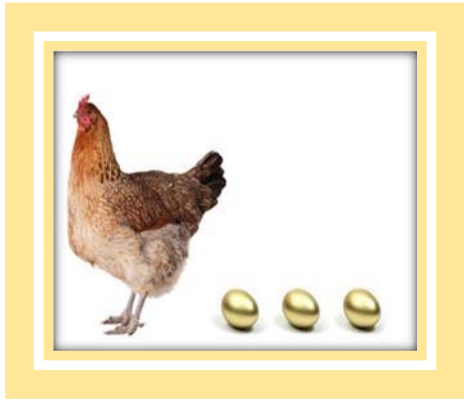
Yes, a group of people, called "The Ghosthunters", have found some interesting information with the aid of some special technological tools. They heard that the entity answered to some stimuli by the experts. Besides, a prayer for "Santa Lucia" and "San Giacomo" was heard and also the cry of a baby.



Anyway, what we know for sure is that San Domenico complex was built on an old Norman cemetery. Could it be that the souls were trapped in the church?

The legend of the Golden Goose

By G. Casella, V. Di Ronza, E. Grassi, G. Grassi, G. Papaccio, E. di Grazia 4F



The city of Aversa has been the protagonist not only of many artistic events, but also a place where lots of myths and legends were born. One of them takes place in rather recent times too: it's the **myth of the golden goose**. This belief started during the Second World War: at the time Fascism was known to be quite profitable and it was said that Luigi Andreozzi, Aversa's *Potestà*, kept a quite unique sculpture in his office: apparently it depicted a goose surrounded by eggs, and it was entirely made of gold. A halo of mystery still surrounds the true nature of

this statue, although it's almost sure that the sculpture pictured a Basilisk, the city's symbol, surrounded by his offsprings. The palace where the statue was kept is situated in Via Roma, and there are still some precious objects of the time inside, such as tapestries, silverware and sumptuously decorated chandeliers.

Another myth of the city takes place in 1500, during the witch hunting period. It is said that there was a very powerful witch who lived in Lusciano, called **Martuccia**, who beheaded animals and sacrificed them to the Devil to make her territory more fertile. When she was exposed, she was brought to the local bishop who tried to convince her to redeem herself, but she publicly desecrated the statue that crucified Christ instead. This action confirmed her death sentence: the witch was burned at the stake on the public square after being imprisoned in **Casaluce's Castle** during the whole process against her. It is said that, after she died, her corpse was never found: in fact it's believed that Martuccia was one of the most powerful witches ever existed and that her spirit still haunts the Castle where she was imprisoned.



"After all.

we believe that legends and myths

are largely made of truth. . . "

Local Media : the Newspapers in town



Aversa has got a lot of news rooms like "Osservatorio Cittadino" whose Director is Vincenzo Sagliocco, "Nero su bianco", "L'Eco di Aversa", "La Rampa" and "Pupia".



Our interview to the Director of Nero su Bianco,
Nicola De Chiara....

By Carlotta Marino, Concetta Balivo 1C



"How and when was the idea of opening this editorial born?"



NERO SU BIANCO

"Well, I worked for many other editorials during my career but then, in 1998, I decided that I could try to open one on my own. I chose to call it Nero su Bianco because I wanted and I still want to emphasize our courage of writing good and bad news without hiding anything."

"Nowadays Nero su Bianco is very important and almost all of Aversa and surroundings know it, what is its secret?"

"I think that it has become 'important' because it not only informs but denounces what is wrong to the general public so many people are interested in this and agree with what we write. Probably the only secret is its longevity, in fact this year we'll celebrate the twentieth anniversary of publication and that is a record for the local Aversa press."

"So it happened that some of your articles have aroused a reaction in people of Aversa Municipality?"

"It happened many times. Nero su Bianco's articles have impacted locally bringing the city administration back to its decisions or to intervene to changing things."



STAY TUNED ON RADIO AVERSA!

By Giorgia Gaia Melucci, Angelica Paone, Alice Di Giorgio 3F

Our interview to Andrea Uccello, responsible for the Radio

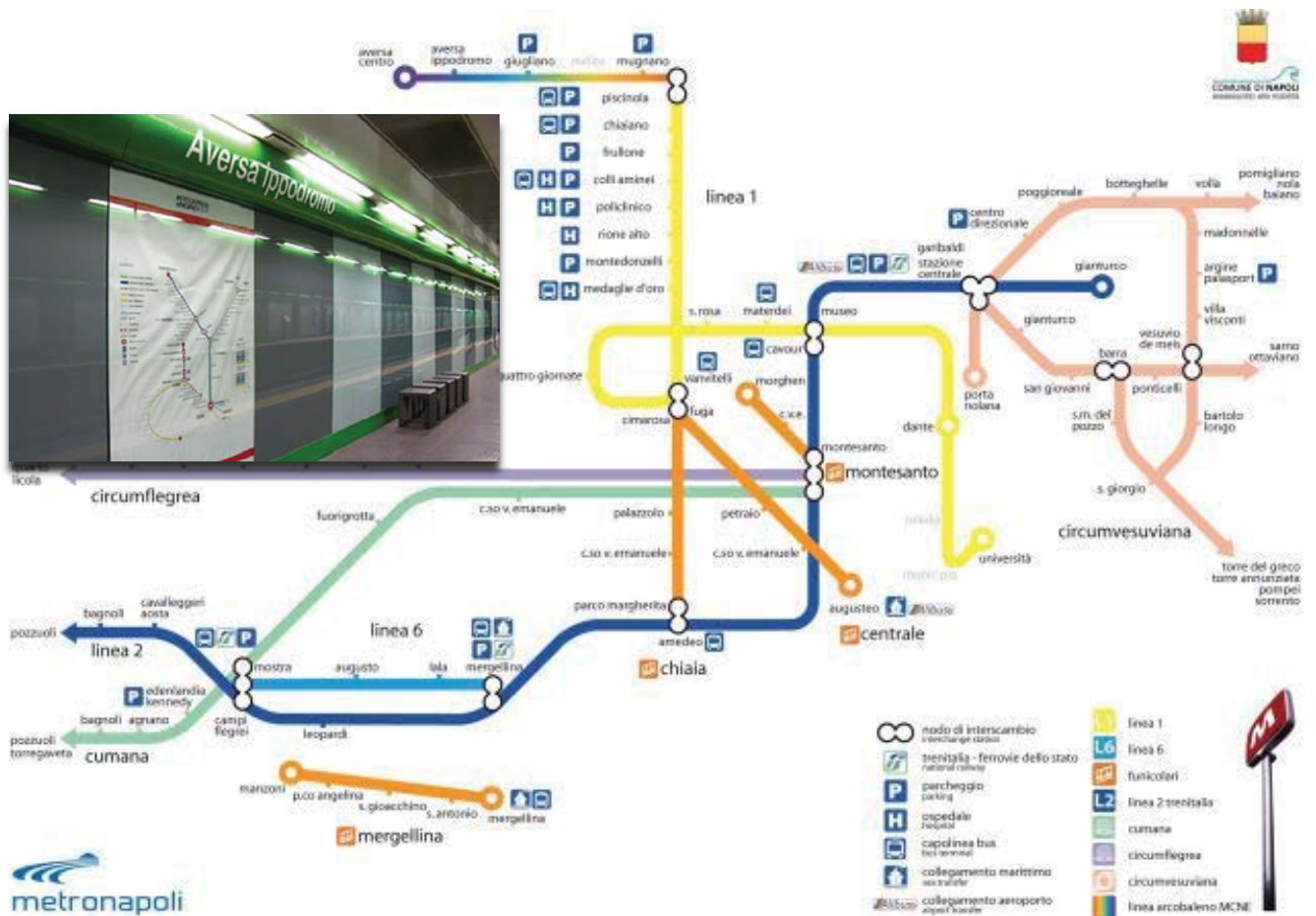
Music, communication and web are the key points of the local broadcaster **Radio Aversa**, created by Stefano Montone in 2010. Everything was born by the desire of sharing music, grabbing citizens' attention and focusing on current issues; in fact, every night this radio provides an appointment with culture, news and sport that can be easily followed by accessing the web. However, what exactly makes **Radio Aversa** so special? First of all, it isn't a traditional FM radio. As a matter of fact, by being a web radio it reaches listeners from all over the world and soon gets a contact with them. In this way, the relationship between the public and the speakers grows stronger and the fusion of culture is definitely increased. We meet Andrea Uccello, in charge of Radio Taxi Web Radio who congratulates on the idea of our English newspaper **Breaking Views** for the fact that it is a way to give voice to youngsters' reflections and ideas. He declares: "According to the expected news of 2018, I can spill out that lots of radio will do away with the old FM transmission system in order to reduce pollution and environmental harm" he adds..... Will this unusual manner of doing information be the antidote for the greater and greater distance between teenagers and the world beyond headphones and microphones?



Let's cross our fingers!

Means of transport in Aversa

Aversa is situated between Naples and Caserta and the railway station that serves our town forms the junction between the Rome–Formia–Naples railway and the Naples–Foggia railway. It was opened in 1867 and is probably the most common means of transport together with the subway that was opened more recently and connects easily Aversa to Naples especially for the students who go to Federico II University. There are also two types of Uni-Buses from the Aversa FS Train Station in Piazza Mazzini which head to the downtown area. The two buses are Stazione/Ingegneria which goes from the Aversa FS Train Station to Aversa University's Engineering School. The other bus goes from the train station to Aversa Architecture University.



"You can't understand a city

without using its public transportation system" (Erol Ozan)

Social events in the Norman City



"So long as you write
what you wish to
write, that is all that
matters; and whether
it matters for ages or
only for hours,
nobody can say."

-Virginia Woolf



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"Write what
should not be
forgotten."

Isabel Allende

TO BE
CONTINUED..

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Breaking Views

Reading, writing, expressing ideas,
reflecting on issues... all this inspired
our magazine in English. An eye on reality,
another on our minds and hearts.

“If a story is in you, it has to come out”

~ William Faulkner